Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: September 30, 2016

To: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Subject: Mayoral Appointment
Director, Miami-Dade Medical Examiner

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the provision of Section 2.02-C of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, I hereby appoint Dr. Emma Lew to the position of Director of the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department. Dr. Lew has been the Acting Medical Examiner since April 18, 2016 and has over 25 years of dedicated County service as an Associate Medical Examiner and Deputy Chief, Medical Examiner. She has been instrumental to the department maintaining the National Association of Medical Examiners' Accreditation standards.

I am confident that Dr. Lew will continue to successfully lead the Medical Examiner Department as one of the leading forensic pathology institutions in the world.

Attachment

c: Honorable Katherine Fernandez Rundle, Miami-Dade County State Attorney
Honorable Carlos J. Martinez, Miami-Dade Public Defender
Wilfredo A. Ferrer, United States District Attorney, Southern District of Florida
Abigail Price-Williams, County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Department Directors
Neil Singh, Interim Commission Auditor
Christopher Agrippa, Clerk of the Board
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Date: April 18, 2016

To: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor

Subject: Passing of Dr. Bruce Hyma, Miami-Dade Medical Examiner – Interim Appointment

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After a three year battle with cancer, I am saddened to announce the passing of Dr. Bruce Hyma, Medical Examiner, on April 17, 2016.

For over 15 years, Dr. Hyma led the state's largest and busiest Medical Examiner District. Concurrent with his duties as Miami-Dade's Medical Examiner, he served as Chairman of the State Medical Examiners Commission and held a volunteer faculty appointment as Assistant Clinical Professor of Pathology at the University of Miami, Miller School of Medicine. His influence on the forensic pathology profession was immense. He oversaw over 30,000 autopsies, including some of South Florida's most high profile cases. A compassionate humanitarian, he also directed a Miami-Dade Cemetery beautification project that provided a proper resting ground and place of tribute for our Miami-Dade County residents.

I want to extend my deepest sympathy to the Hyma family- his wife, Janet, his three children and two grandchildren- and the entire Medical Examiner department during this time of bereavement.

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the provision of Section 2.02-C of the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter, I hereby appoint Dr. Emma O. Lew to the position of Interim Director of the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department. Dr. Emma Lew has dedicated the past 25 years to the Forensic Pathology profession. She joined the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner Department as an Associate Medical Examiner in 1992 and was promoted to Deputy Chief Medical Examiner in 2001. As Deputy Chief, Dr. Lew provided sound leadership to the department and sage counsel to the Chief Medical Examiner. She ensured that the department maintained its strict National Association of Medical Examiners' Accreditation standards and managed a robust training program that prepared over 100 visiting physicians, Forensic Pathology Fellows, and Associate Medical Examiners for senior forensic pathologist positions throughout the world.

I am confident that Dr. Lew will lead the Medical Examiner Department in a manner that will maintain its reputation as a world-renowned forensic pathology facility.

Attachment

c: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of the Courts
Abigail Price Williams, County Attorney
Office of the Mayor Senior Staff
Department Directors
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor

Promotional Dates:

Forensic Pathology Fellow, Miami-Dade County - July 1991
Associate Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County - July 1992
Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County - April 2001

Medical Examiner Experience:

Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County (2001-Present)

- Assists the Medical Examiner in the management of various medical, educational, administrative activities and special projects of the Medical Examiner Department.
- Resolves forensic problems and medical examiner cases for staff.
- Acts in the absence of the Chief Medical Examiner as required.
- Performs work of staff pathologist, attending scenes of violent and suspicious deaths, conducting examinations and autopsies including the collection, preservation and analysis of human body fluids, and prepares autopsy protocols and microscopic reports; conducts and/or attends various weekly in-house scientific conferences; plans and supervises the Residency Training Program in Forensic Pathology, including annual recruitment of forensic pathology Fellows.
- Assists in developing administrative and procedural guidelines for the Medical Examiner Department, performing and/or analyzing quality control for the department, planning various divisional projects to improve service and efficiency levels.
- Assists in analyzing departmental budgetary process.
- Plans, supervises and analyzes daily and future workload of the Pathology Division; schedules autopsy/scene assignments for forensic pathologists.
- Assists in coordinating and approving various personnel issues; plans for future personnel placements.
- Maintains communications with other County agencies, State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, law enforcement agencies and the general public. Testifies as an expert witness in criminal and civil proceedings.
- Assists in formulating departmental position with regard to legislative issues and works with County staff as required.
- Performs related work as required.

Associate Medical Examiner, Miami-Dade County (1992-2001)

- Performs the work of a forensic pathologist; conducts scene investigations; collects, documents, preserves and analyzes forensic evidence; performs autopsies; prepares autopsy protocols and microscopic reports; conducts and/or attends various daily and weekly in-house scientific conferences. Teaches and supervises forensic pathology fellows, pathology residents and visiting medical students. Maintains communications with other County agencies, State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, law enforcement agencies and the general public. Testifies as an expert witness in criminal and civil proceedings. Performs related work as required.

Special Skills:

- Doctor of Medicine Degree. Board Certified in Anatomic Pathology or Anatomic/Clinical Pathology, and Forensic Pathology by the American Board of Pathology. A minimum of seven to ten years of professional experience as an Assistant Medical Examiner.
- Extensive knowledge of the theories, principles and practices of medicine, and anatomic, clinical and forensic pathology.
- Extensive knowledge of the mission, goals and objectives of the department in providing forensic medical services for the citizens of Miami-Dade County and various law enforcement, health and other agencies.
- Extensive knowledge in chemistry, physics, police science, police investigations, and legal requirements related to medical examiner operations.

Education:

University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, B.S. in Physiology (High Honours), 1976
University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, M.D. Degree (Great Distinction), 1982
Rotating Internship, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, 1982-1983
Anatomical Pathology, Residency, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., 1983-1984
Junior Lecturer, Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Leeds, Leeds, England, 1984-1985
Anatomical Pathology, Residency, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan, Canada, 1985-1988
Forensic Pathology Fellowship, Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner Department, 1991-1992

Certification and Licensure:

Medical Licensure, State of Florida, August 1992
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology, June 1992, Forensic Pathology
Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (F.R.C.P.C.) December 1988, Anatomical Pathology
Diplomate of the American Board of Pathology, November 1988, Anatomical Pathology
Medical Licensure, Province of Saskatchewan, 1988
FLEX (Federal licensing exam) 1983
Licentiate of Medical Council of Canada, 1983